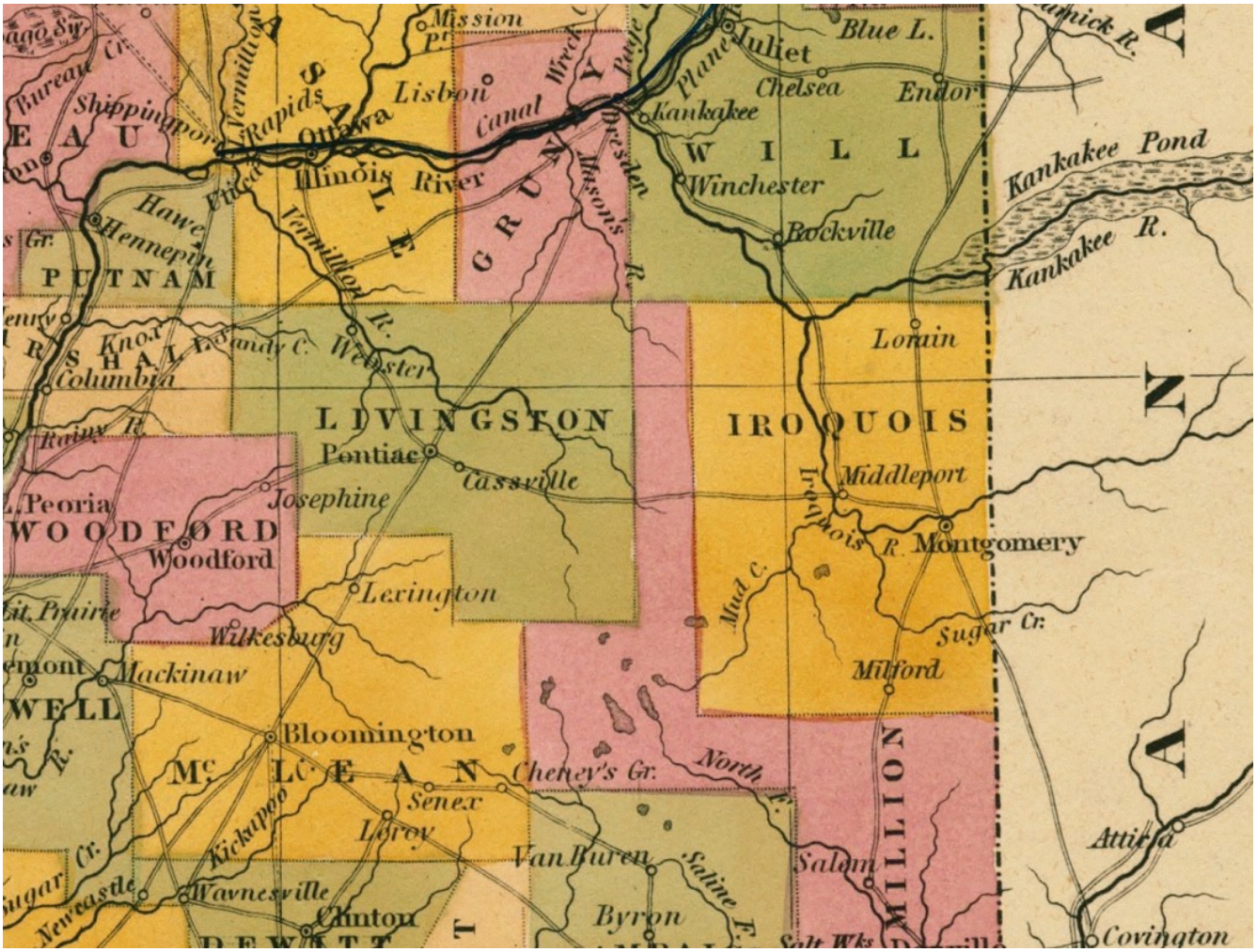
Cassville, Illinois

Summary

I think this town is shown only on 1 old railroad map. I have searched before and could not find out any more info about it.

1947 Railroad map that shows Cassville


Mission Pt.
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Blue L.
Bureau Cr.
Shipping Port
Rapids
Ottawa
Lisbon
Canal
Plano
Chelsea
Endor
Kankakee
WILL
Kankakee Pond
Illinois River
Winchester
Hawes
Hennepin
Vermillion R.
Mason's R.
Dresden
Rockville
Kankakee R.
Gr.
PUTNAM
Lorain
Knox
Sandy C.
Webster
Columbia
LIVINGSTON
IROQUOIS
Rainy R.
Pontiac
Middleport
Tassville
Peoria
Josephine
WOODFORD
Woodford
Iroquois R.
Montgomery
Lexington
Mud C.
Wilkesburg
Sugar Cr.
Mackinaw
Milford
Bloomington
McLEAN
Cheney's Gr.
North F.
Senex
Leroy
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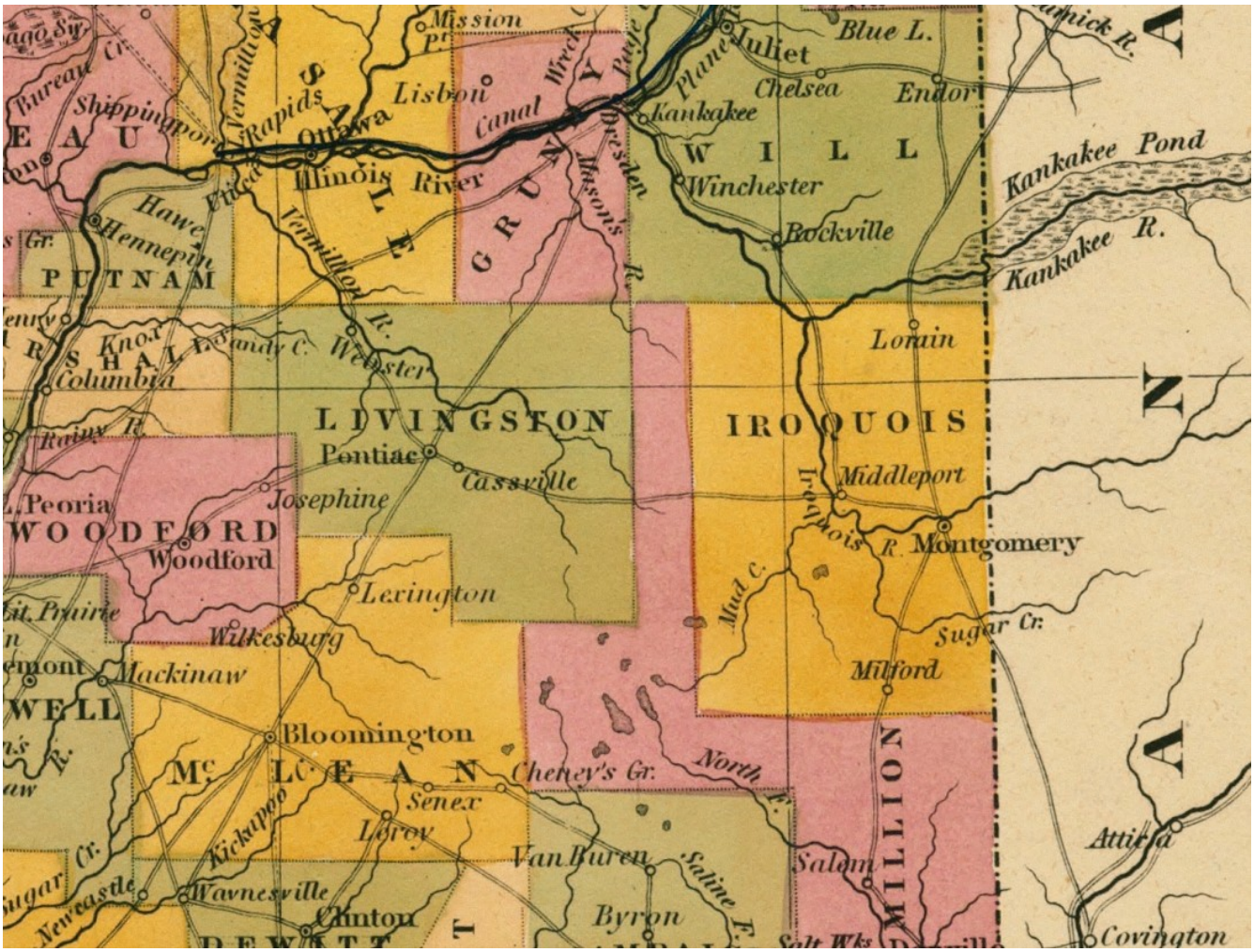
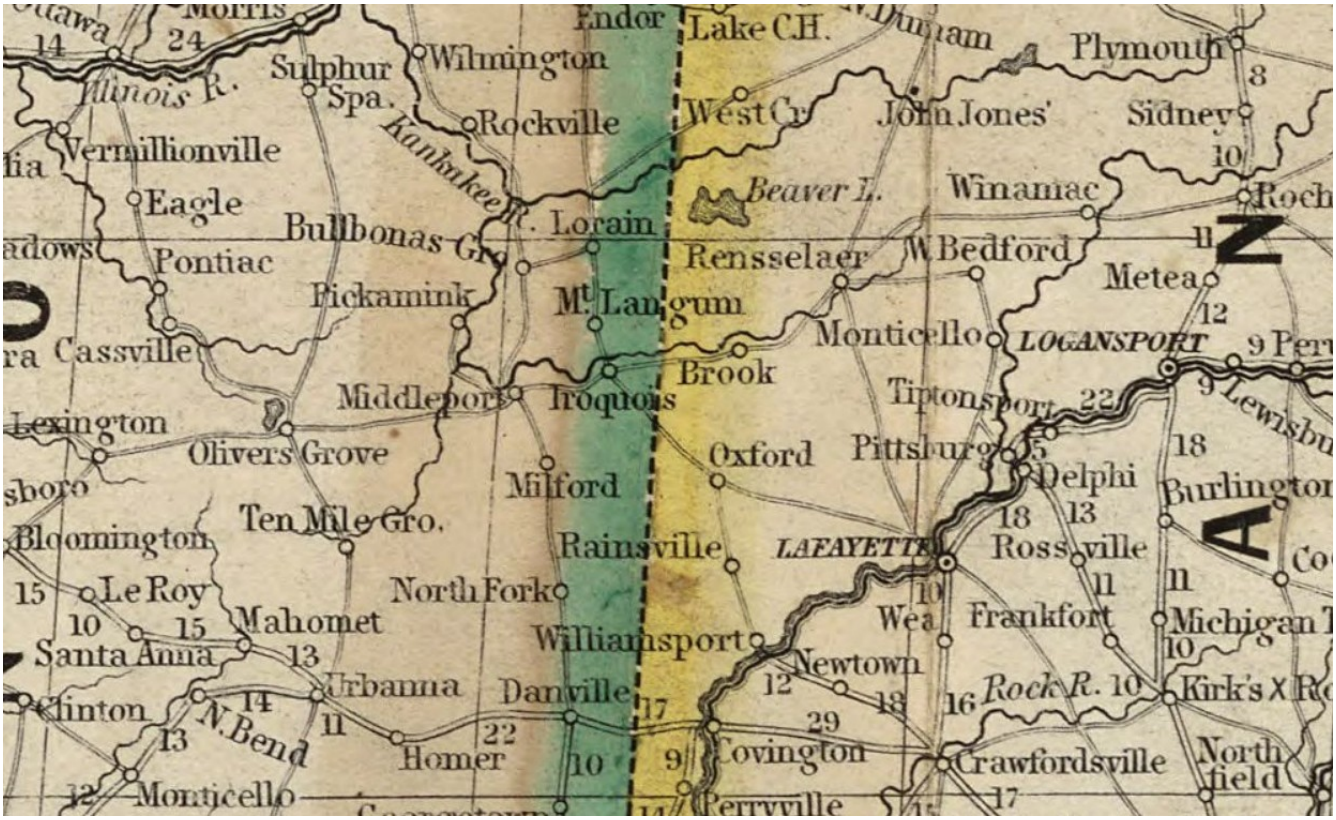
Van Buren
Salem
Attica
Wayneville
Clinton
Byron
Covington

Mitchell's 1849 travel guide

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Rockville
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Sidney
Vermillionville
Kankakee R.
Beaver L.
Winamac
Eagle
Lorain
Bullbonas Gro.
Rensselaer
W. Bedford
Metea
Pontiac
Pickamink
Mt. Langum
Monticello
LOGANSPORT
Cassville
Brook
Middleport
Iroquois
Tiptonsport
Lexington
Olivers Grove
Oxford
Pittsburg
Delphi
Milford
Ten Mile Gro.
Rainsville
LAFAYETTE
Rossville
Bloomington
Le Roy
North Fork
Wea
Frankfort
Mahomet
Williamsport
Santa Anna
Newtown
Urbanna
Danville
Rock R.
Kirk's X
Clinton
N. Bend
Homer
Covington
Crawfordsville
Monticello
Perryville

1915 newspaper article saying civil war veteran born in cassville, illlinois

CIVIL WAR VETERAN

Checkered Career of George W. Sutton Comes To Close.

After years of physical debility, George Washington Sutton, Civil war veteran and early day Wisconsin river pilot, sank into his last sleep at the family home, 218 Dixon street, at 6:20 o'clock Sunday morning.

The career of Mr. Sutton is as interesting as it was checkered. Born in Palestine, Henderson county, Texas, February 18, 1842, he was left an orphan when four years of age, and, with three brothers and two sisters, was sent, in fulfillment of a wish of his mother, to Peoria, Illinois, where his grandmother resided. The trip was made by boat on the Mississippi, during which one of Mr. Sutton's sisters was taken ill and died, and on reaching their destination the remaining children found that their grandmother had moved to Cassville, Illinois. They continued to that place and it was there that Mr. Sutton lived until he was seventeen years of age.

In September, 1861, Mr. Sutton went to Dubuque and enlisted as an artificer in the First Missouri Engineers of the West. He served three years, three months and nineteen days when he was discharged, but two months later he returned to the army, this time as a member of the Seventh Wisconsin cavalry. He then remained until the close of the war.

Mr. Sutton took part in forty-two engagements and at the siege of Vicksburg was stricken with measles, which settled in his eyes, ears, nose, throat and lungs. He also had one of his legs broken when he was kicked by an army horse he was shoeing and in the capture of Island No. 10 on the lower Mississippi was seriously injured by a falling tree. As a direct result of his sickness and injuries during his army service, his left side later became partially paralyzed, for the past twenty-nine years he was totally blind and for eight years practically deaf.

Mr. Sutton's three brothers also participated in the great war. James died a prisoner in Libby prison, Thomas, who served as a scout, was killed by a Confederate sharpshooter, while John, who returned south soon after his arrival at Illinois, was a soldier in the Confederate army and was never heard from after the beginning of the war. He undoubtedly met death on the field of battle.

At the close of the war Mr. Sutton his term of enlistment having expired, came to Stevens Point and for years worked as a blacksmith and horse-shoer. As a pilot he made many trips down the Wisconsin and Mississippi to St. Louis with lumber rafts and he enjoyed a broad acquaintance with early day residents of this section. His residence here was practically continuous ever since, except between the years of 1885 and 1904, when the family lived at Boscobel, Grant county.

Mr. Sutton was married to Miss Clara La Mere in this city in 1870 and she, together with seven children, survives. The children are George Sutton, Mrs. Anna Austin, Mrs. Sarah Core and Mrs. Martha Buttke, who live near Boaz, Richland county, Wisconsin; Miss Bessie Sutton, at home; Mrs. Mabel Fryar, Chicago, and Mrs. Ethel Mills, Vandalia, Montana. Two daughters, Viola and Odella, and a son, Thomas, have passed away. The only remaining members of Mr. Sutton's immediate family still living is a sister, Mrs. Mary Wooley, of Boscobel.

Mr. Sutton, in his younger years, was a man of powerful physique and his deeds of skill and strength are fresh in the minds of some of the older residents, particularly those who knew him as a river man. He was honest and trustworthy, bore his vicissitudes with patience and forbearance and leaves with those who knew him many kind remembrances of his life.

The funeral will be held from the family home at 10:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, Rev. E. Croft Gear of the Church of the Intercession officiating.

AGED LADY STRICKEN

Mrs. Martin Neuberger Critically Ill With Paralysis.

Mrs. Martin Neuberger is very low at her home, 430 Oak street, with paralysis, and little hope for her recovery is held out.

On Saturday morning Mr. Neuberger left home shortly before 7 o'clock to go to his work, and before going Mrs. Neuberger suggested that he stop at the home of their son, Frank, on Pine street, for dinner, as it was quite a distance to go home for the mid-day meal. This Mr. Neuberger did and it was not until about 7 o'clock in the evening when he returned to his home. Not finding his wife in the house he went to the woodshed, where he found her lying prone and in an unconscious condition on the floor. He immediately called for assistance and removed her to one of the rooms in the home and called a physicianan, who pronounced it a case of paralysis. It was found that the entire left side was affected, her speech also being somewhat impaired.

Just how long Mrs. Neuberger lay unconscious in the shed is not known but it is supposed that she was stricken soon after her husband had started for work, as before leaving the home Mr. Neuberger had killed a chicken and apparently Mrs. Neuberger was in the act of dressing it when overcome by the stroke.

As Mrs. Neuberger is seventy-two years of age it is feared that she will be unable to withstand the shock.

MUST BE SOBER.

Legislature Considers Drunken Automobile Drivers.

Joy riders of the intoxicated variety are in for troublesome times, if the recommendation of the assembly committee on state affairs is followed by the legislature. By a unanimous vote the committee last Friday recommended for passage the Jenson bill imposing a jail sentence of from five to ninety days on a driver of an automobile, whether owner or chauffeur, who drives an automobile while in an intoxicated condition.

The anti-cigarette law, looked upon generally as a dead letter, is about to be eliminated from the statutes, and displaced by a law permitting the sale of cigarettes on payment of a license fee of $5.00 per year. The Dobie bill making these changes was placed on final passage in the assembly Friday night.

When an old fashioned farmer travels he carries most of his baggage in his pocket.

LISTEN!

We're Talking About

SHINGLES

Now

Your roof needs the best shingles—None other will do for you.

We sell the best shingles—None other will do for us.

When the rain comes—Well, interview us first and we shall see to it that you and yours keep dry even if the city is wet.

We offer Western Red Cedars in

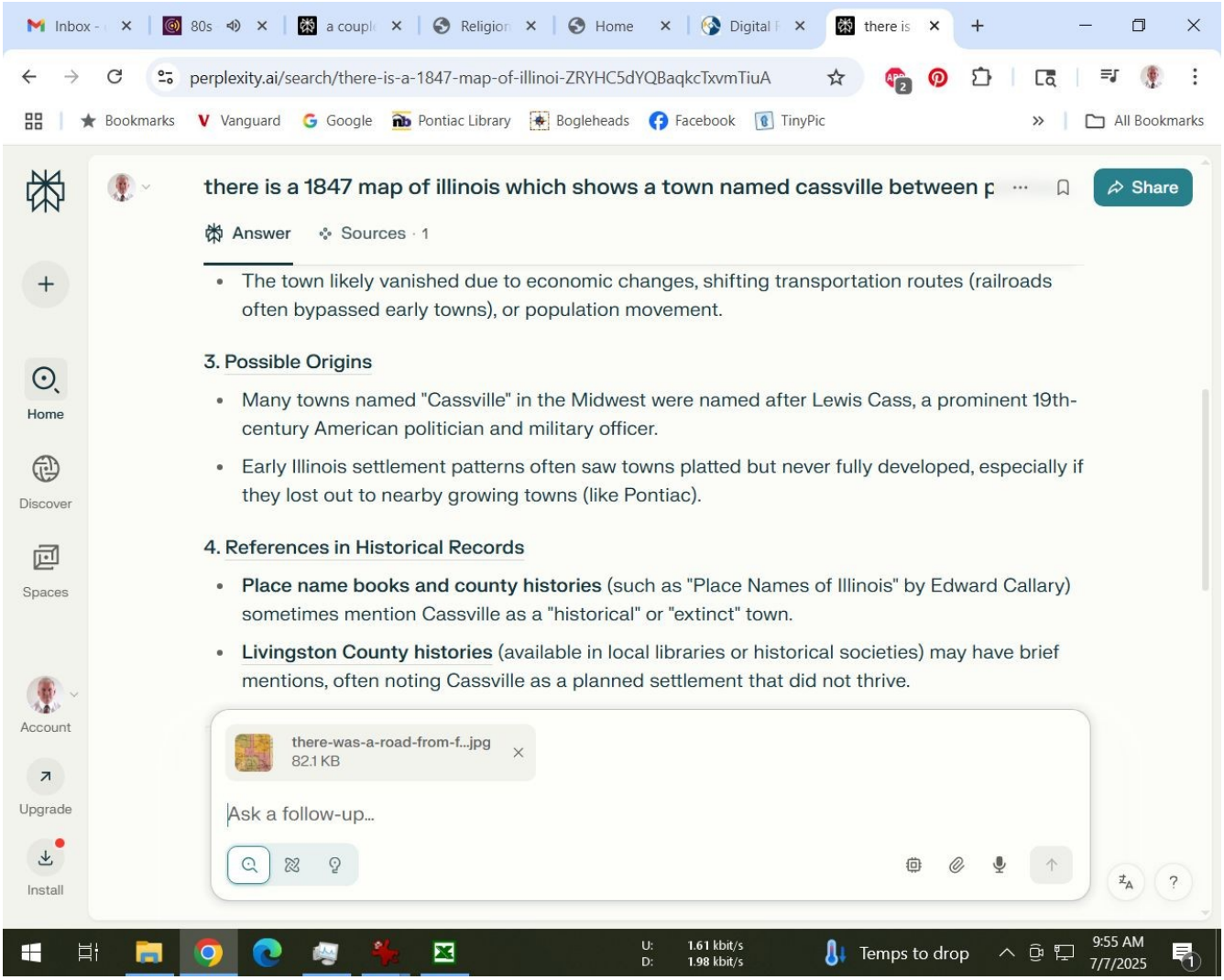
The career of Mr. Sutton is as interesting as it was checkered. Born in Palestine, Henderson county, Texas, February 18, 1842, he was left an orphan when four years of age, and, with three brothers and two sisters, was sent, in fulfillment of a wish of his mother, to Peoria, Illinois, where his grandmother resided. The trip was made by boat on the Mississippi, during which one of Mr. Sutton's sisters was taken ill and died, and on reaching their destination the remaining children found that their grandmother had moved to Cassville, Illinois. They continued to that place and it was there that Mr. Sutton lived until he was seventeen years of age.

1886 pantagraph article saying guy was from cassville, illinois

The exact date fixed for the ceremonies has not as yet been determined, but it will occur on or about the 25th of July.

The ceremonies of laying of the corner stone will in all probability be the most extensive and impressive ever witnessed in the city. Visiting lodges throughout central Illinois will be present. The services will bring to this city the leading officials and prominent workers of this ancient and honorable order. It is proposed among other features to have a magnificent parade. The idea in this connection is to have by invitation a full representation of every order and society in the city of Bloomington. The proposed parade will equal if it does not excel any public demonstration ever held in central Illinois. Lieut. Gov. Smith will be commander of the day. Ex-Past Grand Master J. R. Miller, of Cassville, Ill., will be the chief orator of the day. A fuller and more detailed publication of the programme of this important event will follow as rapidly as the committee work will properly make it public.

Cassville might have been named after Mr. Cass?


perplexity.ai/search/there-is-a-1847-map-of-illinoi-ZRYHC5dYQBaqkcTxvmTiuA
there is a 1847 map of illinois which shows a town named cassville between p
Share
Answer
Sources · 1
The town likely vanished due to economic changes, shifting transportation routes (railroads often bypassed early towns), or population movement.
3. Possible Origins
Many towns named "Cassville" in the Midwest were named after Lewis Cass, a prominent 19th-century American politician and military officer.
Early Illinois settlement patterns often saw towns platted but never fully developed, especially if they lost out to nearby growing towns (like Pontiac).
4. References in Historical Records
Place name books and county histories (such as "Place Names of Illinois" by Edward Callary) sometimes mention Cassville as a "historical" or "extinct" town.
Livingston County histories (available in local libraries or historical societies) may have brief mentions, often noting Cassville as a planned settlement that did not thrive.
there-was-a-road-from-f...jpg
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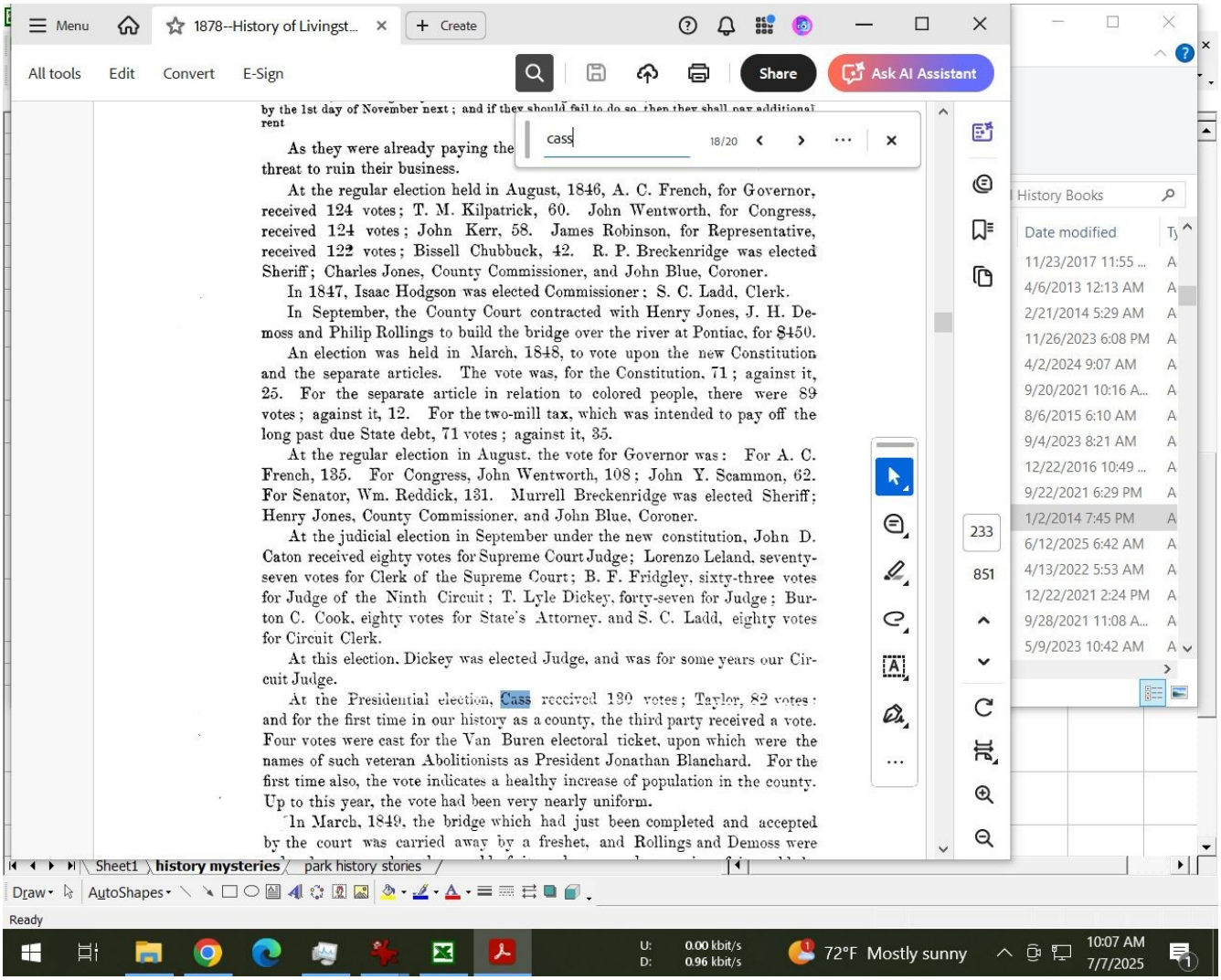
7/7/2025

In 1848, mr cass ran for office, might have been named after him?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cass
18/20
by the 1st day of November next; and if they should fail to do so, then they shall pay additional rent
As they were already paying the
threat to ruin their business.
At the regular election held in August, 1846, A. C. French, for Governor, received 124 votes; T. M. Kilpatrick, 60. John Wentworth, for Congress, received 124 votes; John Kerr, 58. James Robinson, for Representative, received 122 votes; Bissell Chubbuck, 42. R. P. Breckenridge was elected Sheriff; Charles Jones, County Commissioner, and John Blue, Coroner.
In 1847, Isaac Hodgson was elected Commissioner; S. C. Ladd, Clerk.
In September, the County Court contracted with Henry Jones, J. H. Demoss and Philip Rollings to build the bridge over the river at Pontiac, for $450.
An election was held in March, 1848, to vote upon the new Constitution and the separate articles. The vote was, for the Constitution, 71; against it, 25. For the separate article in relation to colored people, there were 89 votes; against it, 12. For the two-mill tax, which was intended to pay off the long past due State debt, 71 votes; against it, 35.
At the regular election in August, the vote for Governor was: For A. C. French, 135. For Congress, John Wentworth, 108; John Y. Scammon, 62. For Senator, Wm. Reddick, 131. Murrell Breckenridge was elected Sheriff; Henry Jones, County Commissioner, and John Blue, Coroner.
At the judicial election in September under the new constitution, John D. Caton received eighty votes for Supreme Court Judge; Lorenzo Leland, seventy-seven votes for Clerk of the Supreme Court; B. F. Fridgley, sixty-three votes for Judge of the Ninth Circuit; T. Lyle Dickey, forty-seven for Judge; Burton C. Cook, eighty votes for State's Attorney, and S. C. Ladd, eighty votes for Circuit Clerk.
At this election, Dickey was elected Judge, and was for some years our Circuit Judge.
At the Presidential election, Cass received 130 votes; Taylor, 82 votes; and for the first time in our history as a county, the third party received a vote. Four votes were cast for the Van Buren electoral ticket, upon which were the names of such veteran Abolitionists as President Jonathan Blanchard. For the first time also, the vote indicates a healthy increase of population in the county. Up to this year, the vote had been very nearly uniform.
In March, 1849, the bridge which had just been completed and accepted by the court was carried away by a freshet, and Rollings and Demoss were
History Books
Date modified
11/23/2017 11:55 ...
4/6/2013 12:13 AM
2/21/2014 5:29 AM
11/26/2023 6:08 PM
4/2/2024 9:07 AM
9/20/2021 10:16 A...
8/6/2015 6:10 AM
9/4/2023 8:21 AM
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4/13/2022 5:53 AM
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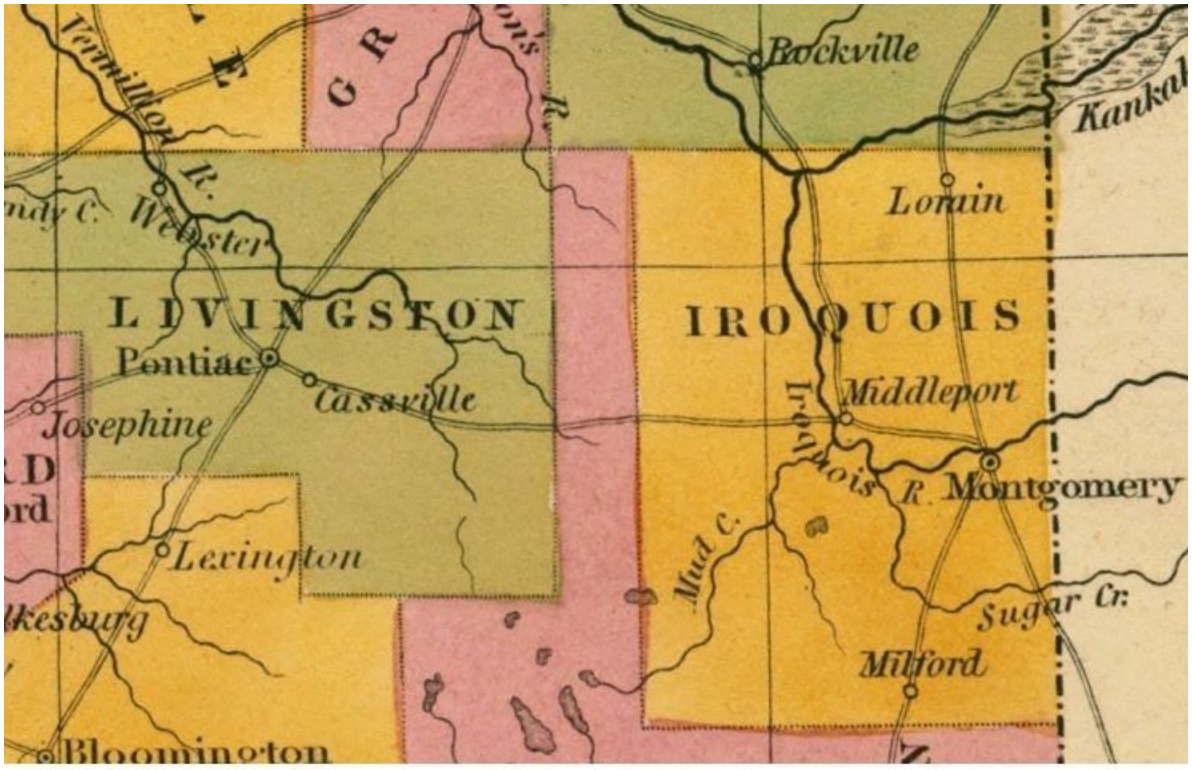
1847 illinois map again



1847 Illinois map showing the existence of the village of Cassville somewhere between Middleport (now Watseka) and Pontiac. In that era, Pontiac was the county seat of Livingston County and Middleport was the county seat of Iroquois County. This dirt road connected the two county seats.

from a story I wrote about Fairbury area mysteries

Another mystery is the origin and demise of a ghost town named Cassville somewhere between Fairbury and Pontiac. An 1847 map of the state of Illinois shows a dirt road running from Middleport to Pontiac. Fairbury is not shown on this map because it was not founded until 1857 when the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad ran its tracks from Peoria to the Indiana border.

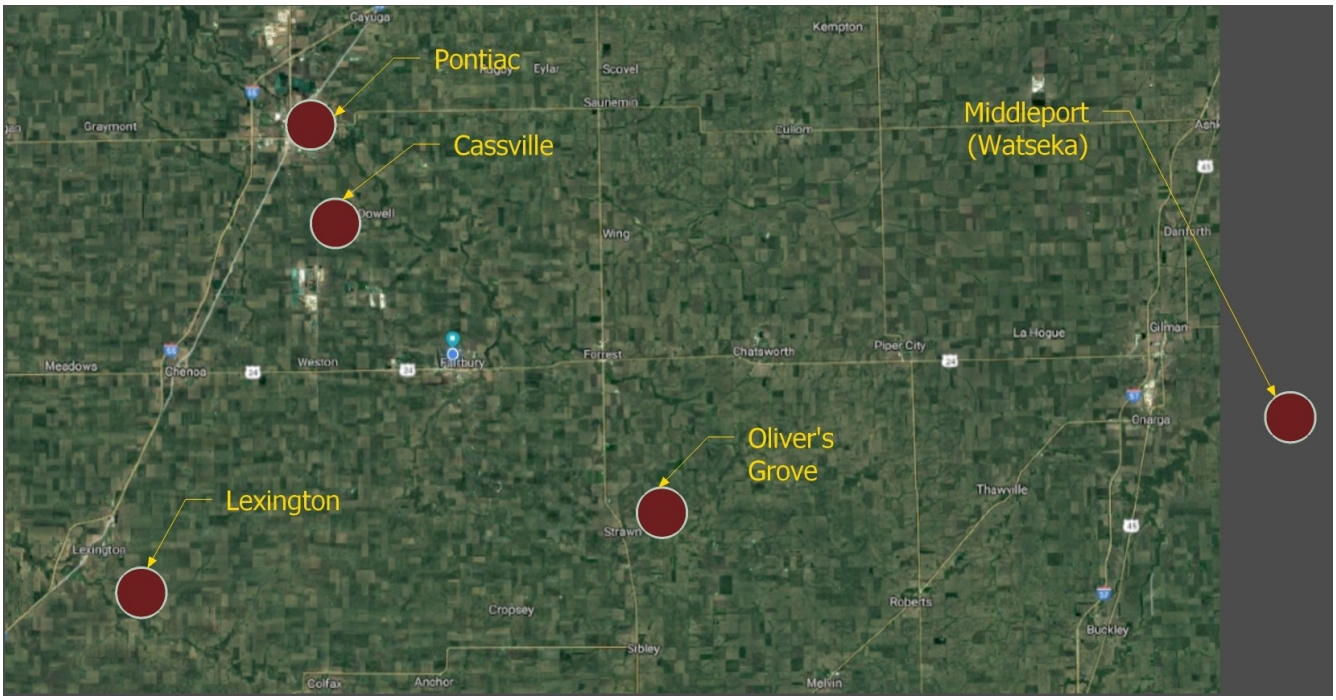
Middleport, in that era, was the county seat of Iroquois County. In 1865, the name of Middleport was changed to Watseka in honor of the wife of a Potawatomi Chief. Livingston County was established in 1837, with Pontiac serving as its county seat. In 1847, this dirt road connected the two county-seat villages.

According to Wikipedia, Lewis Cass (1782-1866) was a United States Army officer and politician. He represented Michigan in the United States Senate and served in the Cabinets of two U.S. Presidents, Andrew Jackson and James Buchanan. He was also the 1848 Democratic presidential nominee. A slave owner himself, he was a leading spokesman for the doctrine of popular sovereignty, which at the time held the idea that

people in each U.S. state should have the right to decide whether to permit slavery as a matter of states' rights. Lewis Cass lost the 1848 presidential election to Zachary Taylor.

An early settler likely attempted to create a new village, which he named Cassville in honor of Lewis Cass. Like many small villages, Cassville probably became a ghost town when a railroad was not built through it. Except for the 1847 Illinois map, the town of Cassville has very few references in published historical documents.

Cassville laid out on modern Google map from the 1847 map



Using this method, cassville was close to mcdowell. But 1847 map may not have been that accurate?

1875 book on geological survey of ohio

other. These differences are not constant, however, and can hardly specific value. They are probably due to the positions held by the ent teeth in the extended series which formed the dentition of the fish to which they belonged.

In the Report of the Geological Survey of Illinois, several species of *Petalodus* are described, one of which, *P. destructor*, is from the Coal Measures. From its large size and peculiar root, this tooth was considered distinct from *P. Alleghaniensis*, but Mr. O. St. John, who has given much study to the fish teeth found in Illinois and Iowa, regards them as identical. This seems to me probable, but it is not yet proved by any facts which have come under my observation. None of the specimens of *P. Alleghaniensis* yet found in Ohio are more than half as large as some of those from Sangamon County, or from Cassville, Illinois. They differ too, in the form of the root; the specimens from Ohio having more elongated and narrower roots than the great teeth, with spatulate, pointed roots, which are found in the Coal Measures of Illinois. These differences may be only local, however, and it is quite possible that intermediate forms will hereafter be found which shall connect the robust and powerful teeth of the West, with the smaller and more delicate forms which occur in the Crinoidal limestone of Ohio.

Bureau of land management – search and see if mr. cass bought any land from federal government

-DAMN all my links are broken, they updated the web page and I can not find the land search option any more!

Illinois web page for land purchases

Found it.

No purchases by mr. cass. Whole bunch of early purchases in livingsotn county by a mr. george casseday.

Chatgpt

are you smart enough to look thru the land purchases by george cassedy and see if any are in the mcdowell or fairbury area?

Yes, and after looking through your search results, I think I see something very interesting.

First, **you've already disproved one of your own theories**.

There are **no land purchases by anyone named "Cass."** Instead, nearly all of the Livingston County purchases are by **George Casseday (or Cassedy)**.

The question then becomes:

> **Were George Casseday's purchases concentrated where Cassville supposedly existed?**

My answer: Yes, surprisingly close.

From your 1847 map, you estimated Cassville to be somewhere east-southeast of Pontiac, possibly near present-day McDowell.

Looking at George Casseday's purchases:

Township 27 North, Range 5 East

- Sections **1, 2, 3**
- Sections **6, 7, 8, 9, 11**
- Sections **17, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29**
- Plus Section **26, Township 27N Range 6E** (farther east)

That is **not** the pattern of someone buying one farm.

That is someone buying **dozens of quarter-sections spread over a large block of country**.

Even more interesting...

He first bought land in **1838**, then continued buying in **1839**, **1846**, **1853**, and **1854**.

That means George Casseday was one of the **earliest large landowners in Livingston County**, arriving almost immediately after the county opened for settlement.

My hunch just got stronger

A few hours ago I thought Cassville might have been named after **Lewis Cass**.

Now I think the better candidate is actually **George Casseday**.

Here's why:

- He actually lived in Livingston County.
- He owned an enormous amount of land in exactly the right era.
- His holdings are clustered in the general area where Cassville appears.
- Early settlements were very often named after the largest local landowner.

"Cassedayville" becoming "Cassville" would not be unusual at all.

Here's what I would do next

I would now ignore Lewis Cass completely.

Instead, I'd investigate **George Casseday**.

Questions I'd ask:

- When did he first arrive in Livingston County?
- Was he a surveyor?
- Was he a land speculator?
- Did he operate a tavern?
- Was he a county commissioner?
- Did he ever advertise town lots?
- Did he file a town plat?

If you find **one newspaper advertisement** that says:

> "Lots for sale in Cassville"

or

> "Town of Cassville laid out by George Casseday..."

...I think you've solved the mystery.

One thing I'd also map

I'd make a township map and place **every Casseday purchase** on it.

I have a feeling you'll see a cluster emerge.

If that cluster centers around your estimated Cassville location, that's much stronger evidence than just comparing it mentally.

I think you're getting close

When I first saw "George Casseday," I thought it was probably a coincidence.

After seeing **how much land he owned**, I don't think it's a coincidence anymore. In fact, if I were betting today, I'd say **George Casseday is now the leading suspect for the namesake of Cassville**. That doesn't prove he founded the town, but it gives you a concrete person to investigate instead of a national politician, and that's a much more promising research path.

1878 Livingston County History Book

no hits for cassville.

No hits for cassedy either.

Kind of strange, if he was early settler, I think it was very likely he would have been included in the 1878 history book, based upon my past research.

ChatGPT again

from that obit, can't we get the first year the guy was at cassville, and then what year he left?
Yes! That's an excellent observation. I should have done that calculation earlier.

The obituary gives us enough information to estimate both years.

From the article:

- Born **February 18, 1842** in Texas.
- Left an orphan **when four years old**.
- Traveled to Peoria.
- Found that his grandmother had moved to **Cassville, Illinois**.
- "It was there that Mr. Sutton lived until he was **seventeen years of age**."

That gives us:

- **Arrival at Cassville:** about **1846**
- **Departure from Cassville:** about **1859**

Then the obituary says:

> "In September, 1861, Mr. Sutton went to Dubuque and enlisted..."

So the timeline hangs together nicely:

- **1842** – Born
- **1846** – Arrives in Cassville (age 4)
- **1859** – Leaves Cassville (age 17)
- **1861** – Enlists in the Civil War (age 19)

What does that tell us?

This is actually stronger evidence than I realized.

It means **Cassville was unquestionably a place where a family could live from approximately 1846 to 1859.** The obituary isn't talking about a brief stopover—it describes Cassville as his home during his childhood and teenage years.

So I'd now revise the timeline to something like this:

- **By 1846:** Cassville definitely existed as a settled community (from the obituary).
- **1847–1849:** Confirmed on published maps.
- **1853–1854:** George Casseday is still actively buying land nearby.
- **1859:** At least one resident was still living there.
- **By the 1870s:** It appears to have vanished from maps and county histories.

That pushes the **known** existence of Cassville about **10 years later** than I had previously concluded.

One caution: the obituary was written in 1915, recounting events from nearly 70 years earlier. It's a valuable historical source, but it's still a retrospective account. Even so, unless there's evidence to the contrary, I think it's reasonable to accept those ages as approximately correct. It may turn out to be one of the strongest pieces of evidence you have for Cassville's period of habitation.

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Casseday, George W.

GEORGE W. CASSEDAY, deceased, formerly of Joliet, whose portrait appears in this work, was born in Bedford Co., Va., Dec. 1, 1803. His father dying when he was 6 months old, his mother moved to St. Anne, Ky., where they lived until

he was 14 years of age, when they moved to Troy, Ohio; at this place he learned the trade of carpenter. On January 13, 1824, he married Miss Delilah Murphy, and in the fall of 1825 moved to Vermilion Co., Ill., where he engaged in farming up to the spring of 1827, when he moved to Edgar Co., Ill., working at his trade of carpenter, and also farming; in 1829, he moved to Paris, of the same county, and remained there up to 1834, when he returned to Vermilion county; in 1851, he came to Joliet, where he lived up to his decease, July 23, 1863. When he came to Joliet, having purchased a large tract of land, he laid out an addition to the city known as "Casseday's Addition." He had five children; three living - Maria L. (now Mrs. Joseph G. English, of Danville, Ill.), Mary C. (now Mrs. John Durham, of Danville, Ill.), and Henry Clay; two deceased - David and Harriet M. [Source: "The History of Will County, Illinois..."; Wm. LeBaron, Jr., & Co., 1878. Tr. by K. Mohler]

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If anyone has any info on the Cassville, Illinois, ghost town mystery, please contact me!

Dale C. Maley
DaleMaley@gmail.com

17 brookwood court
Fairbury, IL 61739

I am also on facebook and you can send me a PM.

July 27, 2026